

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 BRIDGE 00526 232335Z

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 SP-02 EUR-08 INR-05 NSC-05
CIAE-00 EB-04 TRSE-00 PM-03 DODE-00 OMB-01 /053 W
-----008486 232342Z /65

R 231216Z FEB 78

FM AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4776

INFO AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN

C O N F I D E N T I A L BRIDGETOWN 0526

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EAID, XL

SUBJECT: DISILLUSIONMENT U.S. ASSISTANCE TO THE CARIBBEAN

1. IN CONVERSATION TODAY (FEBRUARY 22) FOREIGN MINISTER FORDE TOLD ME OF HIS MEETINGS IN TRINIDAD WITH GOTT OFFICIALS. A PRINCIPAL TOPIC WAS THE PROSPECT THAT SIGNIFICANT NEW U.S. ASSISTANCE FOR THE CARIBBEAN WILL NOT BE FORTHCOMING. AS FORDE PUT IT, "THERE WILL BE NO ADDITIONALITY." FORDE SAID THIS WAS A VERY DISCOURAGING DEVELOPMENT MAKING HIM WONDER IF THE CARIBBEAN CONSULTATIVE GROUP WAS WORTHWHILE AT ALL. HE SAID TRINIDADIANS ARE TAKING A "WE TOLD YOU SO" POSITION. FORDE SAID THAT TRINIDAD WOULD IN NO WAY PARTICIPATE IN THE CARIBBEAN CONSULTATIVE GROUP BUT HOWEVER WOULD CONTINUE TO GIVE BILATERAL ASSISTANCE TO THE EASTERN CARIBBEAN.

2. I MAY HAVE MADE SOME IMPRESSION ON HIM BY POINTING OUT THAT THE PROBLEMS OF THE EASTERN CARIBBEAN PERHAPS WERE NOT PRECISELY ASCRIBABLE TO THE LACK OF LARGE AMOUNTS OF FOREIGN ASSISTANCE, THAT IN FACT SMALL AMOUNTS IF PROPERLY APPLIED COULD BRING ABOUT VERY SIGNIFICANT IMPROVEMENTS. NEVERTHELESS, I PERCEIVE SOME DISENCHANTMENT AS OVERINFLATED EXPECTATIONS OF LARGE SCALE U.S. CONFIDENTIAL

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ASSISTANCE BEGIN TO DEFLATE.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLICIES, FOREIGN ASSISTANCE
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 23 feb 1978
Decaption Date: 20 Mar 2014
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978BRIDGE00526
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780084-1089
Format: TEL
From: BRIDGETOWN
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780224/aaaaatzq.tel
Line Count: 57
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 1f6d9ed1-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 06 jun 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3510938
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: DISILLUSIONMENT U.S. ASSISTANCE TO THE CARIBBEAN
TAGS: EAID, XL, TD, US
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odhc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/1f6d9ed1-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014